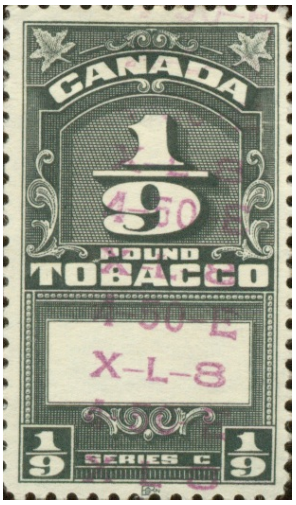
--- 1-9th Pound - “Royal Canadian Tobacco”, Toronto - 4 - 50 - E —

Pre-war, in May 1939, when the *excise duty* on manufactured tobacco was 20¢ per pound “Royal Canadian Tobacco” was using the 1/9th pound **RN-30** with the hidden letters (A-V).

Beginning in March 1938 (likely when the manufacturers were first required to pay up-front for their strips) the codes from “Royal Canadian Tobacco”, Toronto, read ***in mauve ink*** with the ***initial letter*** (the twelve *even numbered* letters from B to X) indicating the *month*, while the ***second letter*** reads in a normal consecutive twelve letter *alphabetic* sequence from A to L also indicating the *month*, and the final digit provides the *year*. What a terribly weird system! Thus **X-L-8** reads as [twelfth month][twelfth month][1938].



RN-30 - 1/9th pound, perf 11, roller coded **4-50-E / X-L-8** by “Royal Canadian Tobacco” in December 1938

[RN-30]	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1938	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	**T-J-8**	---	**X-L-8**
1939	**B-A-9**	---	**F-C-9**	**H-D-9**	**J-E-9**	**L-F-9**	---	**P-H-9**	**R-I-9**	**T-J-9**	---	---

The Budget of September 12th 1939 had increased the *excise duty* on manufactured tobacco from 20¢ to 25¢ per pound. The "Royal Canadian Tobacco" date code, ***in rose ink*** for stamps purchased under the new Budget, used the central letter (**A** to **L**) to denote the twelve months, with the first letter **A** and the last number **0** reading as 1940. In January 1940 the ink colour was changed from rose to a ***dull purple***. Under the June 1940 Budget the colour again changed to a ***dull pea-green***. In 1941 the first and last character changed to **B** and **1**.

When the Budget of June 1940 increased the *excise duty* on manufactured tobacco from 25¢ to 35¢ per pound, "Royal Canadian" decreased the 1/9th pound pouch to 2/19th pounds, and their use of **RN-30** came to an end.

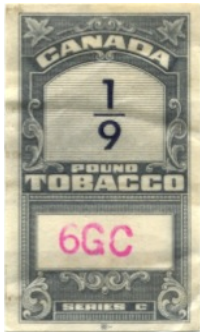
RN-30 - 1/9th pound, perforated 11, roller coded **4 - 50 - E / X-L-9** by "Royal Canadian Tobacco", in December 1939

[RN-30]	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1939	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	**V-K-9**	**X-L-9**
1940	**A-A-0** **A-A-0**	**A-B-0**	---	**A-D-0**	**A-E-0**	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

--- 1/9th Pound *new design* Series "C" - with a *blue central denomination* - 22 x 42 mm. ---

--- as used by "Royal Canadian Tobacco" ---

A series of cancellations in rose ink, using a 4 mm. Gothic font, occurs on **RN-260**. I would very much like to find a copy of this item on package. It is fairly abundant, so I doubt that it originates with an Import Licensee, and possibly comes "Royal Canadian Tobacco", Toronto.



--- RN-260 - 1/9th pound *new design* Series "C", imperforate, with a ***blue central denomination***, coded **6GC** possibly by "Royal Canadian Tobacco", Toronto in July 1966

[RN-260]	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th
1965	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1966	6AC	---	6CC	643	653	663	6GC	---	6IC	---	---	---	---
1967	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

643, 653, 663 are probably variant coding for **6DC, 6EC, 6FC** using ***month numbers*** instead of *letters*.

The presence of **6IC** (on **RN-260**) indicates that the company is running on thirteen *four-week* periods per year, and running with the sequence **A** to **M**. The final **C** in the coding has no apparent significance, and can be found on other cancellations by "Royal Canadian Tobacco", Toronto.

--- 1/9th Pound *new design* Series "C" - with a *black central denomination* - 22 x 42 mm. ---

--- as used by "Royal Canadian Tobacco", Toronto ??? ---

RN-290 - 1/9th pound *new design* Series "C, imperforate, with a ***black central denomination***,
coded **7MC** by "Royal Canadian Tobacco", Toronto in December 1967

[RN-290]	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th
1966	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	6JC	6KC	6LC	6MC
1967	7AC	7BC	7CC	7DC	7EC	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	7MC
1968	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1969	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1970	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

For similar coding from this supplier, see the "Series of 1971" *imperforate* 1½ ounce, **RN-302** "Maple Leaf".

File path is [c:\ CR - STAMPS \ RN_STAMPS \ POUCH \ 1935 - Series C \ 4-50E \ 1-9th pound],
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November 23rd 2013, JBH